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February 28, 2005

Daniel Borunda
Environmental Protection Specialist
USIBWC, Environmental Management Division
4171 North Mesa Street, C-310
El Paso, TX 79902

Re: Draft South Bay International Waste Water Treatment Plant SEIS

Dear Mr. Borunda:

I would like to offer my comments on the South Bay International Waste Water Treatment Plant Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS). I fully support the United States International Boundary Water Commission's (USIBWC) goals of "providing wastewater management facilities that safeguard the public health, environment, public beaches, water quality, and economies of the San Diego and Tijuana region."

As a frequent ocean water enthusiast, I was extremely disappointed to see numerous alternatives that allow the continued and increased discharge of untreated effluent into the shoreline waters of Punta Bandera. Allowing the discharge of untreated effluent in shoreline waters is completely contrary to the USIBWC's goals. Options that allow even a single gallon of untreated effluent to enter the shoreline are irresponsible to the health of locals and visitors to the region.

The USIBWC has designated Alternative 4 option C as its preferred alternative. I am supportive of Alternative 4, options A or C, including discharge option 1. I am also supportive of improving Tijuana's waste treatment and conveyance system. The United States has the responsibility to work with our neighbors to the South to facilitate and maintain an efficient and effective waste water treatment program.

I would like to also mention my concerns about the USIBWC's SEIS. The SEIS failed to provide an alternative that included the creation of an Ocean Outfall System for Tijuana in conjunction with proposed creation of the Secondary treatment plant. The days of allowing untreated effluent to enter the shoreline waters should end with the implementation of the new treatment plants and systems.

I am opposed to the alternatives that include ceasing operation of the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant and allowing untreated flows of effluent into the shoreline waters of Punta Bandera or the Tijuana River.

Thank you very much for your time, I look forward to the reviewing the outcome of this Draft SEIS.

Sincerely,

Jonathan M. Hardy